

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A composition for inhibiting inducible COX-2 activity, comprising a pharmaceutical grade CO₂ extract of hops~~ A pharmaceutical grade extract of hops comprising an effective amount of component I selected from the group consisting of alpha acids and beta acids and an effective amount of at least one component II selected from the group consisting of alpha acids, beta acids, essential oils, fats and waxes, with the proviso that component I and II are not the same compound, wherein said pharmaceutical grade extract comprises from about 10 to 95 percent by weight of alpha-acid and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier;

~~wherein said composition is formulated into a form selected from the group consisting of capsule, tablet, injectable suspension, spray solution, spray suspension, and lotion.~~

6. (Currently Amended) ~~The composition~~ pharmaceutical grade extract of hops of Claim 1, formulated in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier wherein said pharmaceutical acceptable carrier is selected from the group consisting of coatings, isotonic and absorption delaying agents, binders and adhesives, lubricants, disintegrants, coloring agents, flavoring agents, sweetening agents, absorbants, detergents, and emulsifying agents.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The composition~~ pharmaceutical grade extract of hops of Claim 1, further comprising one or more members selected from the group consisting of antioxidants, vitamins and minerals.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The composition~~ pharmaceutical grade extract of hops of Claim 1, further comprising one or more members selected from the group consisting of proteins, fats, carbohydrates, glucosamine, chondrotin sulfate and amino sugars.

Please cancel Claim 9.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~composition~~ pharmaceutical grade extract of hops of Claim 1, 6, 7, 8, or 9, wherein the alpha acid is selected from the group consisting of humulone, cohumulone, isohumulone, isoprehumulone, hulupone, adhumulone, xanthohumol A, and xanthohumol B.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~composition~~ pharmaceutical grade extract of hops of Claim 1, 6, 7, 8, or 9, wherein the beta acid is selected from the group consisting of lupulone, colupulone, tetrahydroisohumulone, and hexahydrocolupulone.

Please cancel Claims 15-17.

Please add the following new Claims.

51. (New) The pharmaceutical grade extract of hops of Claims 1, 6, 7, 8, or 9, wherein the extract of hops was prepared by exposing a hops plant product to a solvent selected from the group consisting of water, steam, superheated water, methanol, ethanol, hexane, chloroform, liquid CO₂, or liquid N₂.

52. (New) A dosage form of a pharmaceutical grade extract of hops comprising an effective amount of component I selected from the group consisting of alpha acids and beta acids and an effective amount of at least one component II selected from the group consisting of alpha acids, beta acids, essential oils, fats and waxes, with the proviso that component I and II are not the same compound, wherein said pharmaceutical grade extract comprises from about 10 to 95 percent by weight of alpha-acid and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

53. (New) The dosage form of Claim 52, wherein said dosage form is a capsule, tablet, injectable suspension, spray solution, spray suspension, or lotion.

54. (New) The dosage form of claim 52, wherein said pharmaceutical acceptable carrier is selected from the group consisting of coatings, isotonic and absorption delaying agents, binders and adhesives, lubricants, disintegrants, coloring agents, flavoring agents, sweetening agents, absorbants, detergents, and emulsifying agents.

55. (New) The dosage form of claim 52, wherein said dosage form produces serum or target tissue concentrations of alpha acids or beta acids in the range of about 0.005 to 10,000 ng/mL.

56. (New) The dosage form of claim 52, wherein said dosage form produces a serum or target tissue concentration of alpha acids in the range of about 0.005 to 10,000 ng/mL.

CLAIM LISTING

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A composition for inhibiting inducible COX-2 activity, comprising a pharmaceutical grade CO₂ extract of hops~~ A pharmaceutical grade extract of hops comprising an effective amount of component I selected from the group consisting of alpha acids and beta acids and an effective amount of at least one component II selected from the group consisting of alpha acids, beta acids, essential oils, fats and waxes, with the proviso that component I and II are not the same compound, wherein said pharmaceutical grade extract comprises from about 10 to 95 percent by weight of alpha-acid and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier;

~~wherein said composition is formulated into a form selected from the group consisting of capsule, tablet, injectable suspension, spray solution, spray suspension, and lotion.~~

Claims 2-5 (Canceled).

6. (Currently Amended) ~~The composition~~ pharmaceutical grade extract of hops of Claim 1, formulated in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier wherein said pharmaceutical acceptable carrier is selected from the group consisting of coatings, isotonic and absorption delaying agents, binders and adhesives, lubricants, disintegrants, coloring agents, flavoring agents, sweetening agents, absorbants, detergents, and emulsifying agents.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The composition~~ pharmaceutical grade extract of hops of Claim 1, further comprising one or more members selected from the group consisting of antioxidants, vitamins and minerals.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The composition~~ pharmaceutical grade extract of hops of Claim 1, further comprising one or more members selected from the group consisting of proteins, fats, carbohydrates, glucosamine, chondroitin sulfate and amino sugars.

Claims 9-11 (Canceled).

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~composition~~ pharmaceutical grade extract of hops of Claim 1, 6, 7, 8, or 9, wherein the alpha acid is selected from the group consisting of humulone, cohumulone, isohumulone, isoprehumulone, hulupone, adhumulone, xanthohumol A, and xanthohumol B.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~composition~~ pharmaceutical grade extract of hops of Claim 1, 6, 7, 8, or 9, wherein the beta acid is selected from the group consisting of lupulone, colupulone, tetrahydroisohumulone, and hexahydrocolupulone.

Claims 14-50 (Canceled).

51. (New) The pharmaceutical grade extract of hops of Claims 1, 6, 7, 8, or 9, wherein the extract of hops was prepared by exposing a hops plant product to a solvent selected from the group consisting of water, steam, superheated water, methanol, ethanol, hexane, chloroform, liquid CO₂, or liquid N₂.

52. (New) A dosage form of a pharmaceutical grade extract of hops comprising an effective amount of component I selected from the group consisting of alpha acids and beta acids and an effective amount of at least one component II selected from the group consisting of alpha acids, beta acids, essential oils, fats and waxes, with the proviso that component I and II are not the same compound, wherein said pharmaceutical grade extract comprises from about 10 to 95 percent by weight of -acid and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

53. (New) The dosage form of Claim 52, wherein said dosage form is a capsule, tablet, injectable suspension, spray solution, spray suspension, or lotion.

54. (New) The dosage form of claim 52, wherein said pharmaceutical acceptable carrier is selected from the group consisting of coatings, isotonic and absorption delaying agents, binders and adhesives, lubricants, disintegrants, coloring agents, flavoring agents, sweetening agents, absorbants, detergents, and emulsifying agents.

55. (New) The dosage form of claim 52, wherein said dosage form produces serum or target tissue concentrations of alpha acids or beta acids in the range of about 0.005 to 10,000 ng/mL.

56. (New) The dosage form of claim 52, wherein said dosage form produces a serum or target tissue concentration of alpha acids in the range of about 0.005 to 10,000 ng/mL.